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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/Intelligence

SUBJECT: Request for Establishment of External  
Research Project

1. Problem

To obtain approval for the expenditure of budgeted external research funds for the purchase of research information on Soviet Bloc railroad transportation capabilities (both freight and passenger) [redacted]

2. Discussion

As a key part of the ORR research effort, basic research on Soviet Bloc railroad transportation capabilities is being undertaken in the Services Division of ORR. Untranslated data for these estimates are available in a limited number of unclassified sources now under intense study [redacted]

[redacted] As a recognized authority on the Soviet Rail System, [redacted] had until 1 March 1953 been contracted to undertake an external research project on Soviet railroad policy, the final results of which will be made available to ORR in early August. During the course of his research on this project, [redacted] made his note cards available to ORR for additional analysis and inclusion into the ORR Estimates File. The information this Office proposes to purchase from [redacted] on Soviet Bloc railroad transportation capabilities will be submitted in this same manner at a minimum cost to the Agency. It is proposed that [redacted] forward his translated research product on railroad transportation capabilities to the Agency; that the research be examined by ORR to determine its value to the Agency and a price set in negotiation with [redacted]. In each case, ORR will reimburse [redacted] only for the information which can be directly applied in support of research projects now underway.

3. Recommendation

That authorization be granted to obligate ORR external research funds to the amount of [ ] to provide a drawing fund for the foregoing purpose.

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Concurrence:

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[ ]

JAMES Q. REBER *14 July '53*  
Assistant Director  
Intelligence Coordination

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[ ]

OTTO E. GUTHE  
Assistant Director  
Research and Reports

APPROVED:

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DD/I

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The above project has been discussed with [ ] of the Comptroller's Office who advises that funds are available within the ORR budget.